

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A modular shelving system, comprising:
 - first and second support posts laterally spaced from one another;
 - the first support post having a first plurality of connectors extending laterally and away from an exterior of the first support post;
 - the second support post having a second plurality of connectors extending laterally and away from an exterior of the second support post; and
 - a first shelf releasably attached at an elevation to at least one of the first plurality of connectors at a location exterior to the first support post and at least one of the second plurality of connectors at a location exterior to the second support post such that the first shelf is cantilevered from the first and second support posts at only one end of the first shelf, the first shelf adjustable to different heights along the first and second support posts by releasable attachment to different connectors of the first and second plurality of connectors at respective locations exterior to the first and second support posts, the first shelf comprising:
 - a first side bracket;
 - a second side bracket; and
 - at least one cross member extending between the first side bracket and the second side bracket; and
 - ~~wherein at least one of the first and second support posts is adapted for releasable attachment to~~ a second shelf releasably attachable at the elevation of the first shelf with at least one of the first and second support posts, wherein the second shelf is cantilevered from the at least one of the first and second support posts at only one end of the second shelf.
2. (Previously presented) The modular shelving system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first side bracket further comprises:
 - a flange having a first end releasably attached to and cantilevered from at least one of the plurality of connectors;
 - a portion extending across at least part of a front width in the lateral direction of the first support post when the first shelf is attached to the first support post to abut and bear against the first support post.

3. (Previously presented) The modular shelving system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one cross member defines a support surface upon which items supported by the first shelf rest.
4. (Original) The modular shelving system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
a base having a first end attached to the first and second support posts, the base having at least one leg supporting the base at a second end of the base.
5. (Previously presented) The modular shelving system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first plurality of connectors are a first plurality of pins extending laterally and away from the first support post and the second plurality of connectors are a second plurality of pins extending laterally and away from the second support post.
6. (Original) The modular shelving system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first and second pluralities of pins extend through and are supported within a first plurality of apertures defined in the first support post and a second plurality of apertures defined in the second support post, respectively.
7. (Original) The modular shelving system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first and second pluralities of pins are welded to the first support post and the second support post, respectively.
8. (Previously presented) The modular shelving system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a cover attached to the first shelf and defining a surface of the first shelf upon which items upon the first shelf rest.

9. (Previously presented) A method of mounting cantilevered shelves to a support post having a front surface oriented to face a front of a shelving assembly, a rear surface oriented to face a rear of the shelving assembly, and a side surface oriented laterally to face a side of the shelving assembly, the method comprising:

selecting a desired height of a first shelf with respect to the support post, the support post having a plurality of connectors at different heights along the support post, each of the plurality of connectors extending laterally and away from the support post;

selecting a connector from the plurality of connectors;

positioning a part of the first shelf at a location adjacent an exterior surface of the support post, the location having an elevation;

attaching the first shelf to the connector at the location solely at a rear end of the cantilevered shelf;

supporting the first shelf solely at the rear end of the shelf and upon the support post at least partially via the connector, such that the first shelf is cantilevered from the first and second support posts at only the rear end of the first shelf; and

attaching a second shelf to the support post at the elevation, wherein the second shelf is cantilevered from the support post at only one end of the second shelf.

10. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising abutting a surface of the first shelf against a portion of at least one of the front surface and the rear surface of the support post.

11. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein attaching the first shelf to the connector further comprises positioning a portion of the first shelf at least partially around at least one of the plurality of connectors.

12. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein:

the plurality of connectors are a plurality of pins extending from the support post; and

positioning a portion of the first shelf comprises extending a portion of the first shelf at least partially around at least one of the plurality of pins.

13. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein attaching the first shelf to the connector further comprises receiving the connector within an aperture in the shelf.
14. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein:
the plurality of connectors are a plurality of pins extending laterally and away from the support post;
the aperture is a recess defined in a flange of the first shelf.
15. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:
selecting a desired height of a the second shelf with respect to the support post;
selecting a second connector from the plurality of connectors;
attaching the second shelf to the second connector; and
supporting the second shelf upon the support post at least partially via the second connector.
16. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:
selecting a desired height of a the second shelf with respect to the support post;
attaching the second shelf to the connector, the second shelf extending from the front face of the support post when attached to the connector; and
supporting the second shelf upon the support post at least partially via the connector.
17. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising
connecting the first shelf to a first side of the support post and connecting the second shelf to a second side of the support post.

18. (Previously presented) A post for supporting cantilevered shelves in a shelving assembly having a front and a rear, the post comprising:

a periphery having

a front surface substantially facing the front of the shelving assembly;

a rear surface opposite the front surface;

a first side adjacent to the front surface; and

a second side adjacent the front surface and opposite the first side;

a plurality of connectors extending laterally and away from at least one of the first side and the second side of the post, at least a portion of each connector located exterior to the post and adapted for connection to at least two cantilevered shelves at a common elevation wherein the plurality of connectors are a plurality of pins welded to the at least one of the first side and the second side of the post and to which connectors on the cantilevered shelf engage.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Previously Presented) The post as claimed in claim 18, wherein the plurality of pins extend through a plurality of apertures in the at least one of the first side and the second side of the post.

21. (Previously Presented) The post as claimed in claim 18, wherein at least one of the pins extend laterally through the first and second sides of the post.

22. (Previously presented) A method for supporting cantilevered shelves, the method comprising:

providing first and second support posts laterally spaced from one another, each of the first and second support posts having a front, a rear, and opposing sides, wherein the first support post has a plurality of first connectors extending substantially laterally and away from the first support post and located at a first plurality of heights on the first support post, and wherein the second support post has a plurality of second connectors extending substantially laterally and away from the second support post and located at a second plurality of heights on the second support post;

selecting a height for a first shelf by selecting at least one connector from the plurality of first connectors extending laterally and away from the first support post and at least one connector from the plurality of second connectors extending laterally and away from the second support post;

positioning third and fourth connectors on the first shelf at respective locations exterior to the first and second support posts, the respective locations having an elevation;

releasably attaching the third and fourth connectors on the first shelf to the first and second connectors selected on the first and second support posts at the locations; and

supporting the first shelf from the first and second support posts solely at a rear end of the shelf, such that the first shelf is cantilevered from the first and second support posts at only the rear end of the first shelf;

wherein one of the plurality of first connectors extending laterally and away from the first support post is positioned for releasable attachment to a second shelf at the elevation.

23. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising:

providing first and second surfaces of the first shelf, the first and second surfaces extending across at least part of the front of the first and second support posts, respectively; and

abutting the first and second surfaces of the first shelf against the front of the first and second support posts, respectively.

24. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the third and fourth connectors on the first shelf are projections extending from the first shelf; and wherein releasably attaching the third and fourth connectors from the first and second connectors comprises extending the projections of the first shelf to positions adjacent the first and second connectors selected on the first and second support posts.

25. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the plurality of first and second connectors extending laterally and away from the support posts are a plurality of pins extending laterally and away from the support posts; and wherein releasably attaching the third and fourth connectors to the first and second connectors comprises extending the projections at least partially about the first and second connectors selected on the first and second support posts.

26. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the third and fourth connectors on the first shelf are apertures in the first shelf; and wherein releasably attaching the third and fourth connectors to the first and second connectors comprises receiving the first and second connectors selected on the support posts within the apertures in the first shelf.

27. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein:
the plurality of first and second connectors extending laterally and away from the support posts are a plurality of pins extending laterally and away from the support posts;
the apertures on the first shelf are recesses within flanges of the first shelf; and
releasably attaching the third and fourth connectors on the first shelf to the first and second connectors selected on the first and second support posts comprises receiving pins of the plurality of pins within the apertures in the first shelf.

28. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising:
selecting a height for the second shelf by selecting an additional connector from the plurality of first connectors extending laterally and away from the first support post and an additional connector from the plurality of second connectors extending laterally and away from the second support post;

aligning connectors on the second shelf with the additional connectors selected on the first and second support posts, respectively;

releasably attaching the connectors on the second shelf to the additional connectors selected on the first and second support posts, respectively; and
cantilevering the second shelf from the first and second support posts.

29. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising:
aligning a first connector on the second shelf with a another connector of the plurality of connectors extending laterally and away from the first support post;
releasably attaching the first connector on the second shelf to the other connector of the plurality of connectors extending laterally and away from the first support post; and
cantilevering the second shelf from the first support post.

30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising:
aligning a connector on the second shelf with the at least one connector selected on the first support post;
releasably attaching the connector on the second shelf to the at least one connector selected on the first support post; and
cantilevering the second shelf from the first support post at the same height as the first shelf.

31. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein:
aligning connectors on the second shelf includes aligning a connector on the second shelf with a portion of the at least one connector located on a side of the first support post opposite the first shelf; and
releasably attaching the connector on the second shelf includes releasably attaching the connector on the second shelf on a side of the first support post opposite the first shelf.

32. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising extending the first shelf to the front of the support posts and extending the second shelf to the rear of the support posts.

33. (Currently Amended) A modular shelving system, comprising:
a support post having a front, a rear, and opposing first and second sides;
a plurality of fastening locations on the first and second sides of the support post, the plurality of fastening locations being exterior to the support post;
a first shelf releasably attached to a location of the plurality of fastening locations on the first side of the support post, the first shelf cantilevered from the support post solely at a rear end of the ~~front~~ first shelf and extending forwardly from the support post; and
a second shelf releasably attached to a location of the plurality of fastening locations on the second side of the support post, the second shelf cantilevered from the support post solely at a rear end of the second shelf and extending forwardly from the support post.
34. (Original) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 33, wherein the first and second shelves are releasably attached to the support post at the same height.
35. (Original) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 34, wherein the first and second shelves are adjacent one another and a portion of the first and second shelves is disposed in front of the front of the support post.
36. (Original) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 33, wherein the first and second shelves are adjacent one another and a portion of the first and second shelves is disposed in front of the front of the support post.
37. (Currently amended) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 33, wherein the first shelf is releasable from and re-attachable to the location of the plurality of fastening locations on the first side of the support post to extend ~~extends~~ rearwardly from the support post.
38. (Previously presented) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 33, wherein the plurality of fastening locations on the first and second sides of the support post are defined at least in part by a plurality of pins extending laterally and away from the first and second sides of the support post, the first and second shelves being attached to the support post via at least one of the plurality of pins.

39. (Original) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 38, wherein the plurality of pins extend through the support post from the first side of the support post to the second side of the support post.

40. (Currently amended) A modular shelving system, comprising:
a support post having a front, a rear, and opposing first and second sides;
a plurality of fastening locations on the first and second sides of the support post;
a first shelf extending to a first exterior location on the first side of the support post and releasably attached to the support post solely at a rear end of the first shelf at the first exterior location, the first shelf cantilevered from the support post and extending forwardly from the support post; and
a second shelf extending to a second exterior location on the second side of the support post and releasably attached to the support post at the second exterior location, the second shelf cantilevered from the support post solely at a rear end of the second shelf and extending rearwardly from the support post.
41. (Original) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 40, wherein the first and second shelves are releasably attached to the support post at the same height.
42. (Original) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 41, wherein the first and second shelves are adjacent one another and a portion of the first and second shelves is disposed in front of the front of the support post.
43. (Original) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 40, wherein the first and second shelves are adjacent one another and a portion of the first and second shelves is disposed in front of the front of the support post.
44. (Currently amended) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 40, wherein the first shelf is releasable from and re-attachable to the location of the plurality of fastening locations on the first side of the support post to extend ~~extends~~ rearwardly from the support post.

45. (Previously presented) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 40, wherein the plurality of fastening locations on the first and second sides of the support post are defined at least in part by a plurality of pins extending laterally and away from the first and second sides of the support post, the first and second shelves being attached to the support post via at least one of the plurality of pins.

46. (Original) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 45, wherein the plurality of pins extend through the support post from the first side of the support post to the second side of the support post.

47. (Previously presented) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 40, wherein the support post has a width measured in a lateral direction of the shelving system, and wherein a portion of the first shelf extends across at least a portion of the front width of the support post.

48. (Original) The modular shelving system claimed in claim 47, wherein:
the support post has a corner defined by the first side and the front of the support post;
and
the first shelf extends around the corner.

49. (Previously presented) A cantilevered shelf releasably connectable to first and second posts at a plurality of different heights along the first and second posts, each post having a front, a rear, and opposed sides, the cantilevered shelf comprising:

a first flange having an end releasably engagable with an exterior surface of one of the opposing sides of the first post, the first flange shaped to extend across less than an entire front width of the first post measured in a lateral direction of the first post to define a bearing surface of the first flange abutting the front of the first post;

a second flange having an end releasably engagable with an exterior surface of one of the opposing sides of the second post, the second flange shaped to extend across less than an entire front width of the second post measured in a lateral direction of the second post to define a bearing surface of the second flange abutting the front of the second post; and

a shelf body attached to and extending between the first flange and the second flange.

50. (Original) The shelf as claimed in claim 49, further comprising a shelf cover attached to the shelf body.

51. (Original) The shelf as claimed in claim 49, wherein the shelf body has a surface upon which items supported by the shelf rest.

52. (Previously presented) The shelf as claimed in claim 49, wherein the first and second posts further comprise a plurality of connectors extending laterally and away from the opposed sides of the posts, the ends of the first and second flanges releasably engagable with at least one connector on the first and second posts, respectively, at different heights along the first and second posts defined at least in part by the locations of the plurality of connectors on the posts.

53. (Previously presented) The shelf as claimed in claim 52, wherein the plurality of connectors are pins extending laterally and away from the opposed sides of the first and second posts.

54. (Original) The shelf as claimed in claim 53, wherein the pins extend through the first and second posts.

55. (Currently Amended) A method for supporting a cantilevered shelf, the method comprising:

providing a first post and second post each having a front, a rear, sides, and a width measured in a lateral direction across the front of the first and second posts, the first post laterally spaced from the second post,

selecting a height of a shelf upon the first and second posts;

connecting a first portion of the shelf with an exterior surface on ~~a side~~ at least one of the sides of the first post;

connecting a second portion of the shelf with an exterior surface on ~~a side~~ at least one of the sides of the second post;

cantilevering the shelf from the first and second posts in one of a forward and rearward direction with respect to the first and second posts;

abutting the shelf against less than the width of the first post at at least one of the front and the rear of the first post; and

abutting the shelf against less than the width of the second post at at least one of the front and the rear of the second post.

56. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 55, wherein connecting a first portion of the shelf to a side of the first post and connecting a second portion of the shelf to a side of the second post comprises attaching a first portion of the shelf to a pin extending laterally and away from the side of the first post and attaching a second portion of the shelf to a pin extending laterally and away from side of the second post.